



U.S. Department of Justice

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For Immediate Release:

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EVENT: Sentencing

Defendant: Lance Newman

FORMER DETROIT POLICE OFFICER SENTENCED

A former Detroit police Department homicide detective was sentenced today to 12 months plus one day in prison for a charge related to his defrauding the family of a murder victim, United States Attorney Stephen J. Murphy announced.

Joined in the announcement was Andrew G. Arena, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Lance Newman, 43, of Detroit, was sentenced by United States District Judge Gerald E. Rosen.

Newman pleaded guilty in April, 2007, to one count of wire fraud. The charge was based on Newman's obtaining over \$12,000 from an Ann Arbor family by falsely telling the family that he had personally incurred expenses in that amount while investigating the 2005 murder of a member of that family in southwest Detroit. In particular, the evidence showed that Newman claimed that he had been forced to spend his own money to provide housing in order to protect a witness in the murder case. The murder victim's family gave the money to

Newman in the belief that he had really incurred the expenses he claimed. Newman admitted, however, at the time he pled guilty and again during sentencing, that he had not incurred any personal expenses.

United States Attorney Murphy stated, “Anytime a defendant abuses a position of trust and honor – such as that of police detective in a major metropolitan city – for exploitation and personal gain, the penalties will be swift and sure, and appropriately so, as today’s yearlong sentence illustrates. The behavior in this case was especially serious insofar as it victimized a family experiencing the grief associated with the murder of a family member.”

At the sentencing, Judge Rosen noted that the evidence was uncontradicted that Newman had done many honorable things in his life, including service in the United States Marine Corps and excellent work as a Detroit police officer. But Judge Rosen also noted that the community had reposed its trust in Newman as a police officer, and stated that Newman’s violation of that trust required a sentence of imprisonment.

In addition to the imprisonment, Judge Rosen sentenced Newman to two years of supervised release, during which he must perform 400 hours of community service and must make full restitution to the victims of his fraud.

United States Attorney Murphy thanked the FBI and the Detroit Police Department who cooperated in the successful investigation of this case, which was ably prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Lynn Helland.